

§ 779.1

§ 779.1 Scope.

This part establishes the minimum requirements for the Secretary's approval of regulatory program provisions for the environmental resources contents of applications for surface mining activities.

§ 779.2 Objectives.

The objectives of this part are to ensure that each application provides to the regulatory authority a complete and accurate description of the environmental resources that may be impacted or affected by proposed surface mining activities.

§ 779.4 Responsibilities.

(a) It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide, except where specifically exempted in this part, all information required by this part in the application.

(b) It is the responsibility of State and Federal government agencies to provide information for applications as specifically required by this part.

§ 779.10 Information collection.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 779.11, 779.12, 779.13, 779.14, 779.15, 779.16, 779.17, 779.18, 779.19, 779.21, 779.22, 779.24, 779.25 and 779.27 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0035. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of sections 507 and 508 of Pub. L. 95-87, which require the applicant to present an adequate description of the existing pre-mining environmental resources within and around the proposed mine plan area. This information will be used by the regulatory authority to determine whether the applicant can comply with the performance standards of the regulations for surface coal mining and whether reclamation of these areas is feasible. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

[47 FR 33686, Aug. 4, 1982, as amended at 52 FR 47359, Dec. 11, 1987]

§ 779.11 General requirements.

Each permit application shall include a description of the existing, premining environmental resources within the

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proposed permit area and adjacent areas that may be affected or impacted by the proposed surface mining activities.

[44 FR 15354, Mar. 13, 1979, as amended at 45 FR 51550, Aug. 4, 1980]

§ 779.12 General environmental resources information.

Each application shall describe and identify—

(a) The lands subject to surface coal mining operations over the estimated life of those operations and the size, sequence, and timing of the subareas for which it is anticipated that individual permits for mining will be sought; and

(b)(1) The nature of cultural, historic and archeological resources listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and known archeological sites within the proposed permit and adjacent areas. The description shall be based on all available information, including, but not limited to, information from the State Historic Preservation Officer and from local archeological, historical, and cultural preservation agencies.

(2) The regulatory authority may require the applicant to identify and evaluate important historic and archeological resources that may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, through

(i) Collection of additional information,

(ii) Conduct of field investigations, or

(iii) Other appropriate analyses.

[44 FR 15354, Mar. 13, 1979, as amended at 48 FR 14822, Apr. 5, 1983; 52 FR 4262, Feb. 10, 1987]

§ 779.18 Climatological information.

(a) When requested by the regulatory authority, the application shall contain a statement of the climatological factors that are representative of the proposed permit area, including:

(1) The average seasonal precipitation;

(2) The average direction and velocity of prevailing winds; and

(3) Seasonal temperature ranges.

(b) The regulatory authority may request such additional data as deemed